PUBLIC NOTICE

The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Butte County and its incorporated cities. BCAG is also the state designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for Butte County and its incorporated cities. As the RTPA, BCAG is required to prepare a Regional Transportation Improvement program (RTIP) every two years. The purpose of the RTIP is to identify programming recommendations for the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is comprised of two components, the RIP for projects nominated by regional agencies in California, such as BCAG and the Interregional Improvement Program (IIP) for projects nominated by Caltrans. The STIP is adopted by the California Transportation Commission.

The RTIP indicates the area's short-term plan for use of RIP and IIP dollars for transportation projects over the next five fiscal years beginning July 1, 2016. The draft 2016 RTIP for Butte County is available for review and comment. The public is encouraged to participate and provide input to the RTIP or any other BCAG planning function. The RTIP document is available for review on the Internet at http://www.bcag.org/Planning/RTIP/index.html and available at each of the Butte County public libraries. Comments on the RTIP are requested by December 1, 2015. The document will remain draft until it is adopted by the BCAG Board.

The 2016 RTIP is scheduled to be adopted by the BCAG Board of Directors at their December 10, 2015 Board meeting at the City of Chico Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. located at 421 Main Street, Chico, CA. Questions regarding the RTIP can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager at BCAG at 530-879-2468 or by e-mail at igarcia@bcag.org.

In addition, BCAG is initiating a call for new **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ)** with applications due January 22, 2016. The purpose of the CMAQ Program is to fund transportation projects or programs that will contribute to attainment or maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter as applicable to the region. All projects and programs eligible for CMAQ funds must come from a conforming transportation plan and a Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). Projects are administered through Caltrans Local Assistance. New programming capacity begins in the 2016/17 fiscal year with annual financial constraints of \$2,227,499 for a total 4 year estimate of \$8.9 million. The public is encouraged to discuss local needs with the local public works departments. Past examples of projects have been intersection reconfigurations to relieve congestion and improve traffic flow, bicycle and pedestrian projects, transit, and intersection roundabouts. Questions regarding the CMAQ program can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager at BCAG at 530-879-2468 or by e-mail at igarcia@bcag.org. Project applications and relevant information including schedule will be posted at BCAG's website at www.bcag.org.